

**Convolvulus Hawk-moth *Agrius convolvuli* (L.) (Lep.: Sphingidae) in Hampshire**

Whilst setting up a Heath Trap in my garden at around 10 pm on 8 August 2003, I noticed a large moth “dive-bombing” smaller moths along the flower border. A short while later I saw the moth again, apparently nectaring at some pink hollyhocks *Alcea rosea*. Later still, I found the moth resting on a glass door panel and was at last able to recognise it as a Convolvulus Hawk-moth – in fresh condition.

Given that this is the first time I have recorded this species in my garden it is incredible to note that between 8 August and 23 September 2003 another eleven examples were recorded at light here. In addition to the example on 8 August, a male, there were also: 14 August – 1 male, 1 female, 17 August – 1 female, 19 August – 1 male, 22 August – 1 male, 6 September – 1 female, 14 September – 1 female, 17 September – 1 male, 22 September – 1 female and 23 September – 1 female. This new species of hawk-moth for my garden list ended a magnificent summer in which no less than eight species of Sphingidae were recorded: Convolvulus, Privet, Lime, Poplar, Eyed, Large Elephant, Pine and several Humming-bird Hawks, the latter persisting throughout the summer and early autumn.— K. J. COKER, Porch House, Wickham Common, Fareham, Hampshire PO17 5DN.

**EDITORIAL NOTE:** Readers are reminded that this journal has, for a great many years, carried the definitive summary of immigrant Lepidoptera records for the British Isles. Indeed, that for the year 2001 appears in this issue. All records of immigrant moths, especially those that have not been published in a mainstream entomological journal, should be sent to the authors listed at the head of the paper on page 1 of this volume of *Eutomologist's Record*.

**Bloxworth Snout *Hypena obsitalis* (Hb.) (Lep.: Noctuidae) overwintering in Devon**

On 4 August 2003, J. McGill, a Devon Moth Group Member, recorded an example of *H. obsitalis* at Prawle Point, South Devon, at light; this is a new locality for the species and the furthest west in Devon thus far.

On 1 February 2004, a visit to Prawle Point was made to look for overwintering butterflies and moths in the former army bunker on the cliff top. Several Small Tortoiseshell *Aglais urticae* and Peacock *Inachis io* butterflies were seen along with the Herald *Scoliopteryx libatrix* and three Bloxworth Snout *Hypena obsitalis*. This appears to be the first positive record of the latter species over-wintering in mainland Britain. Perhaps as consequence of the high temperature in the bunker, around 10°C, these insects were easily disturbed when illuminated by torch light.

The Bloxworth Snout can now be found from Watcombe, near Torquay, all along the coastal locations past Dartford and now at Prawle Point. The larval foodplant Pellitory-of-the-Wall *Parietaria judaica* is abundant along the walls and gullies in the cliffs at Prawle and this, together with over-wintering adults, is surely evidence that this species is breeding in the area? It has not, as far as I know, spread further north from Watcombe into Teignmouth, although the foodplant is very common there too.— ROY MCCORMICK, 36 Paradise Road, Teignmouth, Devon TQ14 8NR.